

1973. No. 101

[C]

**HEALTH SERVICES SUPERANNUATION**

REGULATIONS, DATED 30TH MARCH 1973, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES WITH THE CONSENT OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE UNDER ARTICLES 12 AND 14 OF THE SUPERANNUATION (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1972.

The Ministry of Health and Social Services, on behalf of the Secretary of State and in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 12 and 14 of the Superannuation (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(a) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf after consulting representatives of persons likely to be affected by these regulations, and with the consent of the Ministry of Finance, hereby makes the following regulations:

*Citation and commencement*

1. These regulations may be cited as the Health Services (Superannuation) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1973 and shall come into operation on 1st April 1973.

*Interpretation*

2. In these regulations "the principal regulations" means the Health Services (Superannuation) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1962(b) and other words and expressions used have the same meanings as in the principal regulations.

*Amendments relating to part-time employment*

3. In regulation 2(1) of the principal regulations (which defines expressions used therein)—

(a) after the definition of "the Act" there shall be inserted the following definitions—

"the Act of 1971" means the Health Services Act (Northern Ireland) 1971;"(c);

(b) after the definition of "transfer value" there shall be inserted the following definition—

"transferred officer" means, subject to paragraph (5), a person who became an officer on transfer under the Act to the employment of an employing authority, or who became an officer in consequence of the acquisition of premises under section 74 of the Act of 1971;"

(c) in the definition of "mental health officer"—

(i) for the words "means an officer" there shall be substituted "means a whole-time officer", and

(ii) after the words "such persons" there shall be inserted "and any medical officer who devotes substantially the whole of his time to the provision at such a hospital of specialist services to such persons pursuant to section 25 of the Act of 1971, and, if the Ministry in a particular case consents, any other officer who, having been a mental health officer, without a break in his

(a) S.I. 1972, No. 1073 (N.I. 10).  
(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1962, No. 237.

(c) 1971. c. 1. (N.I.).

service and without having become entitled to any benefit under these regulations subsequently becomes employed in a part-time capacity in any employment as aforesaid.”.

4. In regulation 4(1) of the principal regulations (application of the regulations) for sub-paragraph (c) to the end of the paragraph there shall be substituted—

- “(c) any other whole-time officer who was transferred under the Act or entered employment of an employing authority in consequence of the acquisition of premises under section 74 of the Act of 1971, and immediately before either of those events had reasonable expectations of superannuation benefits on retirement and since either of those events has remained an officer without a continuous break of 12 months or more other than a period to which regulation 17(2) applies;
- (d) any other whole-time officer who at any time since attaining the age of eighteen years has been in the employment of that or any other employing authority as such whole-time officer for a continuous period of two years or for an aggregate period of two years without having had before the expiration of that aggregate period a break of more than one month at any one time;
- (e) any part-time officer who is employed as a medical officer or dental officer; and
- (f) any other part-time officer who satisfies the requirements of schedule 8:

Provided that—

- (i) for the purposes of sub-paragraph (d) of this paragraph, account shall be taken of the employment of a transferred officer which he held at the time of transfer, and of any other employment before transfer in which, had he continued to hold it, he would have been transferred as if such employment had been employment under an employing authority;
- (ii) where, on the termination of the employment of an officer of an employing authority, a payment is made in lieu of leave not taken by the officer, his employment as an officer in the employment of that authority shall for the purposes of these regulations be deemed to have continued for a period equal to such leave, and such payment shall be deemed to be his remuneration for that period; and
- (iii) a whole-time officer of an employing authority, other than a practitioner, shall not in addition be an officer by virtue of sub-paragraph (e) or (f) of this paragraph; and the term “officer” shall be construed accordingly.”

5. In regulation 16 of the principal regulations (reckoning of previous periods of employment), for paragraph (2) there shall be substituted—

“(2) If a person has become an officer on or before completion of the period of two years of employment required under regulation 4(1)(d) or under any provision in the previous regulations there shall be reckonable as service in relation to the employment in which he became such an officer any previous period of employment under an employing authority which was included in such period of two years and which was prior to the employment in which he became such an officer.”

6. In regulation 21 of the principal regulations (reckoning of qualifying service) after paragraph (2) there shall be added—

“(3) A person who has become an officer by virtue of regulation 4(1)(f) shall be entitled to reckon for the purpose of determining whether any benefit is payable to or in respect of him but not for the purpose of calculating any such benefit, every period of employment which satisfies all of the following requirements, that is to say that it was a period of employment—

- (i) after he attained the age of eighteen years;
- (ii) under any body which is or is deemed to be an employing authority under these or the previous regulations or any corresponding regulations in England or Scotland;
- (iii) for not less than half of such hours in any period as would have constituted whole-time employment in his case;
- (iv) which was followed, within not more than three months, by other employment to which this paragraph applies or by employment which is reckonable as contributing service; and
- (v) which is not and has not been reckonable as contributing service under these or the previous regulations or any corresponding regulations in England or Scotland;

and the proviso to paragraph (1) shall apply to a person to whom this paragraph applies.”.

7. Schedule A to these regulations shall be included as the eighth schedule to the principal regulations.

*Income tax on contributions refunded*

8. In regulation 30 of the principal regulations (return of contributions)—

(a) for paragraph (1)(a) there shall be substituted—

“(1)(a) In this regulation, the provisions of paragraph (2) shall apply subject to the provisions of paragraphs (8) and (9) in relation to a person who is an excepted officer, the provisions of paragraphs (3) to (5) shall apply subject to the provisions of paragraphs (8) and (9) in relation to a person who is not an excepted officer, and the provisions of paragraph (7) shall apply in relation to any person whether or not he is an excepted officer.”;

(b) for paragraph (1)(b)(i) there shall be substituted—

“(i) have not been returned to the person or, if they have been returned to him, he has repaid the amount he received and any further amount which he is required under these or the previous regulations to pay, and”;

(c) after paragraph (7) there shall be added the following paragraphs—

“(8) Where the Ministry is charged to income tax on any amount paid under this regulation, the sum payable by it under this regulation shall be reduced by an amount equal to that tax.

(9) Where an officer would, apart from this paragraph, be entitled to receive under this regulation a return of his contributions and any of those contributions were paid in respect of remuneration exceeding £5,000 in any financial year, or were paid under some other superannuation scheme in which he was subject, on leaving, to a provision corresponding to this paragraph, he shall not be entitled to receive any payment under this regulation, but in lieu

thereof shall be entitled on attaining the age of 60 years (or if he is then an officer on ceasing after that age to be an officer) to the benefits to which he would be entitled under regulation 7(1)(a)(ii) if he satisfied the requirements of that provision.”

9. Where any provision of the principal regulations enables a person to pay or repay an amount equal to any sum paid to him by way of return of contributions together with an amount equal to any income tax which was deducted from his contributions in respect of such payment, the requirement to repay an amount equal to such income tax shall not require the person to repay an amount equal to any reduction of the payment under regulation 30(8) of the principal regulations.

*Amendments relating to actuarial investigation*

10. In regulation 51 of the principal regulations (accounts and actuarial investigations) for paragraph (4) there shall be substituted the following paragraph—

“(4) As at the expiration of every period of 5 years after 31st March 1969 there shall, unless the Ministry of Finance otherwise determines, be an actuarial investigation by the Government Actuary of the assets and liabilities of the Ministry in respect of the benefits provided by the Ministry under these regulations, and the Government Actuary shall submit to the Ministry and to the Ministry of Finance a report of every such investigation.”

*Amendments relating to reduction of pension or injury allowance*

11. In regulation 32 of the principal regulations (reduction of pension or injury allowance)—

(a) for the words from the beginning of paragraph (1) to and including the words “payable out of public funds, then” there shall be substituted—

“(1) Where a person who has become entitled to a pension or injury allowance under these regulations or the previous regulations—

(a) continues in or enters the employment of an employing authority as defined in regulation 2(1) of these regulations, in regulation 2(1) of the National Health Service (Superannuation) Regulations 1961(d), or in regulation 2(2) of the National Health Service (Superannuation) (Scotland) Regulations 1961(e), but not including employment with an employer with whom an agreement has been made under Article 12(9) of the Superannuation (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 or in respect of whom a direction has been made under Article 12(6) of that Order; or

(b) continues in or enters any other employment in which he participates in the benefits provided under these regulations, the National Health Service (Superannuation) Regulations, 1961, or the National Health Service (Superannuation) (Scotland) Regulations 1961,

then, until he attains the age of 70 years;”

(b) in paragraph (2) for the words “the remuneration of which will be payable out of public funds” there shall be substituted the words “to which paragraph (1) of this regulation applies”.

(d) S.I. 1961, No. 1441 (II, p. 2824).

(e) S.I. 1961, No. 1398 (II, p. 2697).

*Amendments relating to qualification for benefit*

12.—(1) In regulation 4 of the principal regulations (application of the regulations), after paragraph (2) there shall be added—

“(3) On the attainment of the age of 70 years an officer, other than an officer to whom the provisions of regulation 36 apply, shall, for the purposes of these regulations other than regulation 9, cease to be an officer.”

(2) In regulation 7 of the principal regulations (officer's pension and retiring allowance) for the words from the beginning of paragraph (1) to the words “the Ministry” there shall be substituted the words “On ceasing to be an officer, a person shall be entitled to receive from the Ministry—”.

(3) In the principal regulations—

(a) in regulation 12(1)(b) (death gratuity) there shall be deleted the words “(other than a person to whom paragraph (2) of regulation 7 applies)”;

(b) in regulation 13(3B) (widow's pension) for the reference to “, (b) or (c)” there shall be substituted a reference to “or (b)”;

(c) in the proviso to regulation 13(3) (widow's pension) for the words “sub-paragraphs (b) and (c)” there shall be substituted the words “sub-paragraph (b)”;

(d) in regulations 13(3A)(b) (widow's pension) and 13A(2)(a) (child's allowance) for the reference to “(b) or (d)” there shall be substituted a reference to “or (b)”;

(e) in regulation 29(1) (average remuneration) for the words “ceased to hold his employment as an officer” there shall be substituted the words “ceased to be an officer”;

(f) in regulation 30 (return of contributions) in paragraphs (2), (3)(b) and (4)(b), for the words “a person (other than a person to whom paragraph (2) of regulation 7 applies) who” there shall be substituted the words “a person who, before becoming entitled to such a benefit”.

(4) In regulation 39(2) of the principal regulations (supplementary payments) for the words “on his ceasing to be employed or on his death,” there shall be substituted the words “on or after his ceasing to be an officer.”

*Rate of child's allowance and widow's pension for the first three months following a parent's death*

13. The seventh schedule to the principal regulations (child's allowance) shall be amended as follows—

(a) there shall be inserted at the beginning the following paragraph, and the remaining paragraphs shall be renumbered accordingly—

“1. Where an officer or a person entitled to a pension under these or the previous regulations dies leaving an eligible child then, subject to the provisions of regulation 13C(4), a child's allowance shall be payable for the first three months following the death of the parent or, if the child was born within that period, the remainder of the period—

(a) if the parent was an officer on or after 1st October 1972 and was, at the time of his death, entitled to a pension under these or the previous regulations and was not then an officer, at the rate set out in regulation 13(3B)(a);

- (b) if the parent was, at the time of his death, entitled to a pension under these or the previous regulations and was also an officer, at the rate set out in regulation 13(3B)(b); or
- (c) if the parent was an officer at the time of his death and was not then entitled to a pension under these or the previous regulations, at the rate set out in regulation 13(3B)(c); and provisos (ii), (iii) and (iv) to regulation 13(3B) shall apply to the calculation of such a rate:

Provided that no allowance shall be payable under this paragraph for any period during which a widow's pension is payable at the rate specified in regulation 13(3B).";

- (b) in paragraph 2 (as renumbered by this regulation) after the words "regulation 13C(4)" there shall be inserted the words "except whilst any amount is payable under paragraph 1 of this schedule";
- (c) in paragraph 3 (as renumbered by this regulation) for the words "paragraph 1(a)" there shall be substituted the words "paragraph 2(a)"; and
- (d) in paragraph 4 (as renumbered by this regulation) for the words "was entitled or deemed to be entitled to the larger pension", there shall be substituted the words "would result in the larger payment".

14. In regulation 13(3B) of the principal regulations (widow's pension)—

- (a) the words in sub-paragraph (c) from "so, however" to the end of the sub-paragraph shall be deleted; and
- (b) after proviso (iii) there shall be added—

"(iv) an officer whose remuneration was suspended by reason of his absence from duty immediately before his death shall be deemed to be a person mentioned in paragraph (1)(a) of this regulation who had become entitled to a pension under regulation 7(1)(a)(i) on the date of his death."

#### *Revocation*

15. The following regulations of the principal regulations are hereby revoked—

regulations 6(4)(a), 7(2), 11(3), 12(1)(d), 13(1)(c), 13(3)(c), 13(3B)(d), and regulation 13(1) proviso (iii).

#### *Date from which amendments take effect*

16.—(1) Regulations 3 to 7 of these regulations shall have effect from 1st April 1973.

(2) Regulations 8 and 9 of these regulations shall have effect from 6th April 1973.

(3) Regulations 11 to 15 of these regulations shall have effect as from 1st October 1972.

## SCHEDULE A

## EIGHTH SCHEDULE

## PART-TIME EMPLOYMENTS

*Regulation 4(1)(f)*

The requirements to be satisfied in order that a person employed in a part-time capacity may be an officer by virtue of regulation 4(1)(f) are that:—

1. He fulfils one of the following minimum employment qualifications:—
  - (a) he is employed by one or more employing authorities for such hours in any period as in the aggregate amount to not less than one-half of the hours which would constitute whole-time employment in his case; or
  - (b) he satisfies the Ministry that in the aggregate of his employment under one or more employing authorities and employment under a local authority or such other employment as the Ministry may designate he is employed for such hours in any period as would constitute whole-time employment in his case; or
  - (c) he was transferred under the Act or entered employment of an employing authority in consequence of the acquisition of premises under section 74 of the Act of 1971, and immediately before either of those events had reasonable expectations of superannuation benefits on retirement, and since either of those events has remained an officer without a continuous break of 12 months or more other than a period to which regulation 17(2) applies:

Provided that any part-time officer who, whilst continuing to be employed by an employing authority, no longer satisfies a minimum employment qualification under this paragraph shall be deemed to satisfy such a qualification for a period of one month unless during that period he elects otherwise in writing to his employing authority.

2.—(1) There is in respect of him an election made in writing to his employing authority and having effect in accordance with this paragraph.

(2)(a) Where the employment commenced before 1st April 1973 and the election is made before 1st May 1973, the election shall take effect as from 1st April 1973;

(b) where the employment commences on or after 1st April 1973 and the election is made within one month after such commencement, the election shall take effect as from the date of such commencement; and

(c) where the election is made one month or more after the commencement of the employment and on or after 1st May 1973, the election shall take effect as from the beginning of the next pay period following the receipt by the employing authority of that election:

Provided that—

- (i) an employment in which a person does not fulfil a minimum employment qualification under paragraph 1 of this schedule shall be deemed for the purposes of this paragraph to commence when he fulfils such qualification; and
- (ii) an officer shall be deemed to have made an election taking effect as from 1st April 1973 if, before that date, he was a part-time officer to whom these regulations applied and he satisfied the description contained in paragraph 1(b) or 1(c) of this schedule.

(3) An election under this paragraph shall continue to have effect as an election to his employing authority as long as the officer remains an officer without a continuous break of 12 months or more other than a period to which regulation 17(2) applies.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland this 30th day of March 1973.

(L.S.)

*F. A. Elliott,*  
Assistant Secretary.

The Ministry of Finance on behalf of the Secretary of State hereby consents to the foregoing Regulations.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland this 30th day of March 1973.

(L.S.)

*C. F. Darling,*  
Assistant Secretary.



## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)*

These regulations further amend the Health Services (Superannuation) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1962 which provide for the superannuation of persons engaged in the Health Services.

The main changes are—

- (a) Persons employed in the Health Services in a part-time capacity for at least one-half of such hours in any period as would constitute whole-time employment (other than part-time medical or dental officers, who are already members of the superannuation scheme) will be able to elect to join the scheme (regulations 3 to 7 and Schedule A).
- (b) Hitherto, when a refund of contributions has been made, the Ministry has been required to deduct and pay to the Inland Revenue an amount equal to the tax relief allowed to the officer when the contributions were originally paid. From 6th April 1973 (the date on which section 22 Finance Act 1970 (c. 24) comes into operation) the Ministry will instead itself be liable to a tax charge, at the rate of 10%, on any such refunds; these regulations enable the Ministry to recover this tax from the contributions returned. From the same date, no return of contributions may be made to an officer who has earned over £5,000 a year, but instead the benefits accrued to him as a result of those contributions will be preserved and put into payment later (regulations 8 and 9).
- (c) The superannuation scheme will be subject to an actuarial investigation every 5 years from 31st March 1969 instead of every 7 years (regulation 10).
- (d) Under an existing provision of the principal regulations a pensioner re-employed in any employment remunerated from public funds receives only so much of his pension as would bring his re-employment earnings up to the level of his pre-retirement earnings. This provision will now apply only to a pensioner re-employed in the Health Services, the National Health Service in England, Wales or Scotland, or in employment outside these services in which he is contributing to the superannuation schemes covering Health Services employment in Northern Ireland, National Health Service employment in England and Wales or in Scotland, and will cease to operate when a pensioner reaches the age of 70 (regulation 11).
- (e) Entitlement to a pension and retiring allowance is given to an officer on reaching age 70 without his being required to give up employment (regulation 12).
- (f) Any child's allowance will be payable for the first three months at the rate of remuneration of the deceased parent if he died in service, or at the rate of his pension if he died on pension, in lieu of the existing rate; this provision will apply only where no widow's pension is payable. The existing provision concerning the rate of widow's pension for the first three months where the husband died in service is extended to a case where the husband was also a pensioner (regulation 13 and 14).

In accordance with Article 14(1) of the Superannuation (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 regulations 11, 12, 13 and 14 have retrospective effect as from 1st October 1972 (regulation 16(3)).